

Introduced by Senator Soto

February 6, 2003

An act to amend Sections 19531 and 19605 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to horse racing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 141, as introduced, Soto. Horse racing: racing days and weeks.

Existing law, the Horse Racing Law, provides for the operation of live horse racing in this state, subject to regulation by the California Horse Racing Board. Existing law further provides the board with the exclusive authority to allocate racing days, dates, and hours for horse racing, as specified.

Existing law also provides that the California Horse Racing Board may authorize an association licensed to conduct a racing meeting also to operate a satellite wagering facility at its racetrack inclosure, under specified conditions that differ between the northern zone and the central and southern zones.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 19531 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 19531. The board shall make allocations of racing weeks,
- 4 including simultaneous racing between zones, as it deems

1 appropriate. The maximum number of racing weeks that may be
2 allocated for horse racing other than at fairs, shall be as follows:

3 (a) For thoroughbred racing: 44 weeks ~~per~~ a year in the
4 northern zone; 42 weeks ~~per~~ a year in the central zone; and seven
5 weeks ~~per~~ a year in the southern zone.

6 (b) For harness racing: 25 weeks ~~per~~ a year in the northern
7 zone.

8 (c) For quarter horse racing: 25 weeks ~~per~~ a year in the northern
9 zone.

10 (d) For harness racing and quarter horse racing: a total of 77
11 weeks ~~per~~ a year in the combined central and southern zones.

12 (e) In its written application for a license, an applicant shall
13 state the time of day, consistent with this chapter, during which it
14 will conduct its racing meeting, and particularly the first race
15 starting time for the various racing days. After receiving a license,
16 a licensee shall not change the first race starting time without
17 securing prior approval of the board.

18 (f) Notwithstanding this section or any other provision in this
19 chapter, the board shall not allocate dates to a thoroughbred
20 association in the central zone for the purpose of conducting racing
21 during daytime hours if a thoroughbred racing association is
22 conducting racing in the southern zone on the same date during
23 daytime hours.

24 SEC. 2. Section 19605 of the Business and Professions Code
25 is amended to read:

26 19605. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
27 board may authorize an association licensed to conduct a racing
28 meeting in the northern zone to operate a satellite wagering facility
29 for wagering on races conducted in the northern zone at its
30 racetrack inclosure subject to ~~all of~~ the conditions specified in
31 Section 19605.3, and may authorize an association licensed to
32 conduct a racing meeting in the central or southern zone to operate
33 a satellite wagering facility for wagering on races conducted in the
34 central or southern zone at its racetrack inclosure subject to the
35 conditions specified in subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, of Section
36 19605.3 and the conditions and limitations set forth in Section
37 19605.6.

38 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no satellite
39 wagering facility, except a facility that is located at a track where
40 live racing is conducted, shall be located within 20 miles of any

1 existing satellite wagering facility or of any track where a racing
2 association conducts a live racing meeting. However, in the
3 northern zone, a racing association or any existing satellite
4 wagering facility may waive the prohibition contained in this
5 subdivision and may consent to the location of another satellite
6 wagering facility within 20 miles of the facility or track.

7 (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the Department of Food
8 and Agriculture may approve not more than three satellite
9 wagering facilities that are licensed jointly to the 1a District
10 Agricultural Association and the 5th District Agricultural
11 Association and that are located on the fairgrounds of the 1a
12 District Agricultural Association or within the boundaries of the
13 City and County of San Francisco. Before a satellite wagering
14 facility may be licensed for the 1997 and subsequent calendar
15 years under this subdivision, the department shall conduct a
16 one-year test at the proposed site in order to determine the impact
17 of the proposed facility on total state parimutuel revenues and on
18 attendance and wagering at existing racetracks and fair satellite
19 wagering facilities in the Counties of Alameda, San Mateo, Santa
20 Clara, and Solano. Notwithstanding Section 19605.1, a satellite
21 wagering facility may be located on property leased to one or both
22 fairs. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the fairs may
23 contract for the operation and management of a satellite wagering
24 facility with an individual racing association or a partnership, joint
25 venture, or other affiliation of two or more racing associations that
26 are licensed to conduct thoroughbred meetings within the northern
27 zone.

28 (d) Subdivision (b) shall not be construed to prohibit the
29 location of satellite wagering facilities within 20 miles of any
30 existing or proposed satellite facility established pursuant to
31 subdivision (c).

